ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[00028] An off-hook management telecommunication system comprising a DTMF detector, an encoder and a microprocessor located within a channel unit. The system allows the user to depress a selected sequence of keys during a line connection which indicate to the microprocessor to hold the line off-hook, via signaling to a central office, despite the fact that the telephone is being returned to an on-hook position. The line is held off-hook for a pre-determined amount of time to allow the user to switch telephones.